

USAID-Fyear-1 - Report

Strengthening Community Forest Management: Experiences and Planning in the Sierra Norte of Oaxaca [World Wildlife Fund, Inc., 523-A-00-01-00042-00]

ACTIVITIES	ACTIONS TO SUPPORT MAY INCLUDE:	FY	COMMENTS, VERIFIERS AND PRODUCTS	COMMENTS:WHEN DONE, CHANGES OR EXPLANATIONS
Objective 1: Enhance/build community capacity to manage their forest resources.				
Activity 1. Overall diagnosis of the 6 communities identifying needs in planning and implementation of the process.	<p>+Agreement taken with JICA, SEMARNAT, CONAFOR and Communities, for community planning.</p> <p>+Information revision and documentation of the former planning process made by JICA and SEMARNAT (ERP)</p> <p>+Identification with partners of the adequate tool for updating the information</p> <p>+Identification of the consultant group for the application of the regional planning community process</p>		<p>+Agreements finished with partners and negotiated with communities</p> <p>+Information revision was finished on behalf of the partners and the consultant in charge of planning</p> <p>+The existing base information has been identified, as well as the various tools which will be used for participating with the communities and updating the information.</p> <p>+The consultant for planning has been identified with the partners and the beginning of activities has been agreed upon.</p>	Activities are in process. Local partners' and stakeholders' participation level is favorable for continuing.

<p>Activity 2: Apply community planning tools to develop management plans.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine economic alternatives for the timber and non timber resources focus on how to include women planning. • Establish the link in local management decisions to forest and water resources. • Identify economic alternatives to support community. 	<p>+Presentation to partners and communities of the steps to follow the development of Community forest management plans.</p> <p>+Beginning of the conversion of initial information from JICA in community management plans.</p> <p>+Agreements with CONAFOR for financing part of the forest management studies.</p> <p>+Identification and agreement with a forest technician for local follow up to forestry and organization activities.</p>		<p>+Partners' and communities' approval for beginning the development of management plans and their funding .</p> <p>+Agreements with agrarian authorities to review the forestry management plans in meetings, and participate in their execution.</p> <p>+A local forestry technician with experience was hired part time to accompany the management plans and to form local technicians.</p>	<p>The initial activities are focused on developing forest management plans which allow the identification of productive and remunerated activities and on being able to direct investment of governmental programs for forestry restoration and management. Women's participation will arise from agreement making in the community meetings. (Asambleas Comunitarias)</p>
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Activity 3: Build mapping and resource monitoring capacities in target communities (GIS, Biological sampling, identification of priority areas for conservation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> +Revision and integration of the geographic information produced on the region by various stakeholders and partners. +Agreements among partners to identify the various needs and the format for the GIS integration. +Identification of the consultant group and development of the terms of reference for contracting. +Working meeting of Proyectos de Sierra Juárez, A.C. and CIESAS for the GIS coordination and integration in a joint manner. +Terms of reference for contracting the database information integration of the various botanical researchers and collectors in the region. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> +Contribution of the geographic information of each partner for its integration to the GIS. +Format and program definition for information gather and database management. +A consultant has been hired and initiated activities. Consultancy will be developed with close collaboration with the two consultant groups. +Signed contract for integration of the floristic database and collection in specific sites which there is a lack of information. 	Activities have started, expecting to have integrated the GIS in the coming months and to start priorities identification of regional conservation.
Objective 2: Establish the integration of conservation and sustainable forest management on a regional planning scale				
Activity 7: Working meetings for the integration of the Conservation Plan & Sustainable forest management of the Chinantla Alta region. (SEMARNAT, PROCYMAF, CONAFOR, JICA, WWF)	+A series of meetings to develop agreements aimed at defining the Conservation Plan Integration among partners.		+Agreements for a conservation and sustainable forest management plan with JICA, and negotiation with CONAFOR and SEMARNAT.	Institutional collaboration between SEMARNAT and JICA is making easier the plan and programs integration such as COINBIO, PROCYMAF, and PRODEFOR.

Activity 8 : Identification of common tools and instruments for the integration of GIS & the regional Panning. (SEMARNAT, PROCYMAF, CONAFOR, JICA Y WWF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> +Meeting for the integration of methodology and identification of common tools. +Agreements on the format for regional fauna and flora database +Identification of the various scales of geographic information and their information sources (satellite images, aerial photo, INEGI cartography, and forest maps). 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> +A proposal for the GIS and technical integration for the adequate measures of impact. +Agreements for the joint contribution of two different GIS to a new proposed regional GIS 	The GIS integration is starting with the institutional collaboration agreements
Activity 13: Identified mechanisms and criteria to strengthen the Community Protected Areas (CPA) concept in regional level land use planning with the legal framework.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> +To introduce the recognition of Community Protected Areas (CPA's) in the State Protected Areas System. +Identification and use of legal tools which allow the statements (declaration) at municipal and agrarian levels. +To promote institutional support of federal and state programs for the CPAs. +First workshop of experiences exchange of declaration and management of CPAs. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> +Participation in the present revision of the ecology law of the state +A document which analyzes all the legal arrangements which permit the CPAs declaration. +Direct support of regional governmental programs to strength activities of CPAs (PRODEFS, PROCYMAF, PRODEFOR, COINBIO) +Minutes of the first workshop of experiences interchange in the declaratory and management of CPAs 	The strengthening of the CPA scheme will continue to strengthen with the existing regional experiences

<p>Activity 14: Promote recognition of good forest management practices with support from FSC</p>	<p>+Agreement with FSC to promote community forest certification and training in certified communities.</p> <p>+Collaboration agreement between CONAFOR and PROCYMAF in order to promote certification in new forest communities.</p> <p>+Promotion and strengthening of an alliance between certified producers and manufacturers, with marketing purposes</p>		<p>+First workshop of use and management of the FSC logo.</p> <p>+Identification, together with PROCYMAF, of 8 communities for certification within the next 3 years.</p> <p>+Alliance to put together certified timber volume and enter the national market</p>	<p>The marketing focusing for the recognition of good forest management is demanding to quickly identify the design and manufacturing of products for markets, as well as the attention to the organization for putting together permanent marketable volumes</p>
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